

Henne Braschoss

Essen, 27th December, 1945
Wiesbadener Strasse 21

To

Field Marshal M o n t g o m e r y,

Bad Oeynhausen.

Petition of pardon of Mrs. Braschoss
for her husband Johann Braschoss.

Dear Sir !

My husband Johann Braschoss was condemned to death by the British Mil.-Govt.-Court at Essen-Steele on account of pretended participation in having murdered English airmen on the 13th of December 1944 at Essen. Because I am steadily convinced, that my husband is innocent in this murder, Sir, I beg for pardon respectively for alteration of the judgment. As a faithful Christian, I abhor this horrible monstrous crime, and I should like to prevent, that a new misery will be added. For to unburden my husband I ask for an impartial trial of my following explanations:

1.) The chief witness for the prosecution -Conradshaus- was not at all on the bridge, the place of the murder. According to his declarations he was on the roof of his house, being distant about 80-100 meters from the place of the murder, and being about 10 meters deeper. The sight is partially hindered by a wall on the bridge, about 1 meter high. Moreover it is very important, that by the riot, Conradshaus not at all was able to notice any details. I am certain, that by mistake Conradshaus has charged my husband with a stranger, as till now the chief perpetrators have not yet ascertained. Only he who was on the place of the murder, is able to describe details, and not anybody who was distant about 100 meters from the place of the murder, and who had to look up to the bridge.

2.) My husband is veteran of the first World War. He was discharged as a severely disabled ex-Serviceman (70%). Temporarily he is only able to go with the aid of a light walking-stick (with a point of india-rubber). When my husband was discharged of his first imprisonment on remand, the American major, who conducted the first examination has declared, that my husband not at all comes into question for the act, because he bodily was unable to do this. My husband is very clumsy on his feet without a walking-stick, therefore it is absolutely excluded, that my husband was able to have struck to death the English airmen with the help of a stick.

3.) Mrs. Käufer, Essen, Mecklenbecksweg 3, again has declared face to face with me, that my husband took no part in having thrown the British airmen over the bridge.

Yours very respectfully

Frau Braschoss